

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

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IN RE:

MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY

DOCKET NOS. RPU-01-5  
RPU-01-3

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**ORDER DOCKETING CASE AND SUSPENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

(Issued July 9, 2001)

On March 14, 2001, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a petition with the Utilities Board (Board) to reduce MidAmerican's Iowa jurisdictional electric rates. The Board docketed the petition, identified as Docket No. RPU-01-3, and issued a procedural schedule by order issued April 13, 2001.

On June 11, 2001, MidAmerican, as part of its responsive testimony, filed an application for a general increase in its electric rates, identified as Docket No. RPU-01-5. On July 2, 2001, MidAmerican and Consumer Advocate filed a joint motion to suspend the procedural schedule in Docket No. RPU-01-3. MidAmerican and Consumer Advocate also asked that Docket No. RPU-01-5 be docketed but that no procedural schedule be set.

In support of the motion, MidAmerican and Consumer Advocate said they had reached agreement on a settlement outline that, if approved by the Board, would resolve all outstanding issues in both dockets. MidAmerican and Consumer Advocate said they were contacting intervenors to advise them of the settlement outline. MidAmerican and Consumer Advocate said they anticipated a settlement agreement being filed no later than July 13, 2001.

In order that the Board may fully consider MidAmerican's request for an electric rate increase, the Board will docket its June 11, 2001, filing as a formal proceeding, identified as Docket No. RPU-01-5. However, no procedural schedule will be established and the procedural schedule in Docket No. RPU-01-3 will be suspended pending the filing of the proposed settlement. In the event a proposed settlement is not filed on or before July 13, 2001, MidAmerican and Consumer Advocate will be required to file a joint status report.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. An investigation is initiated to determine whether MidAmerican Energy Company's Iowa jurisdictional electric rates should be increased. This matter is identified as Docket No. RPU-01-5, a formal contested case proceeding. The expenses reasonably attributed to this investigation will be assessed to MidAmerican in accordance with Iowa Code § 476.10 (2001).

2. The procedural schedule in Docket No. RPU-01-3 is suspended. In the event a proposed settlement is not filed on or before July 13, 2001, MidAmerican and Consumer Advocate shall file a joint status report.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Sharon Mayer  
Acting Executive Secretary, Assistant to

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2001.